

Disclaimer and Caution

The study of Martian meteorites has probably reached the halfway point. The data has come in by bits and pieces, an abstract here, a classic paper there, as the mystery has unfolded. It is perhaps time to have a temporary catalog of what has been learned to date (1996) so that future investigations can be planned.

This compendium attempts to relate the salient facts about the mineralogy, petrology, geochronology and isotopic studies of each of the meteorites from Mars. It is organized rock by rock, like a catalog, and the data for each rock are organized in the same way, such that a researcher can readily find the section he needs. As such, it is sometimes repetitious. It is not meant to be read as a book!

Every effort was made to attribute the results to the original researcher and a prudent investigator will look up the original reference for the data, rather than use what is repeated here. Researchers should look up their own data and find out for themselves how reliable the reporting has been! Everyone will appreciate knowing where the author has made errors in compilation and the author would appreciate feedback in case he prepares another edition.

In this Mars Meteorite Compendium, a conscious effort was made not to provide or discuss interpretation except where necessary. The focus has been to collect all the data in one place.

This document (with color photos) can be seen at <http://www-curator.jsc.nasa.gov/curator/antmet/mmc/mmc.htm>. This website may be updated periodically.

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